

April 9, 2019

Dear Denver Public Schools Families,

Hate will never be welcome in Denver Public Schools. Every student and every educator, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual identity, citizenship status, mental and physical ability status, and/or religion is a valued member of our DPS community. We know that we must remain steadfast in our commitment to ensure that all members of the Denver Public Schools family feel welcome, appreciated and safe in our schools, as made evident in our Board Resolution, "[Safe and Welcoming School District](#)."

As you may have learned, someone recently used gasoline to burn an anti-Semitic symbol on the asphalt at Ellis Elementary School on Monday. We condemn this despicable act. The DPS Department of Safety and Denver Police Department are working to identify those involved and Denver Public Schools is working with the Ellis school team to help all of those affected by this to heal.

I also want to take this opportunity to encourage all of us to stand united against hate. I want to encourage all of us to raise our voices in opposition to this action and all types of hate speech.

We stand in support of all of our educators, students, families and community at Ellis and in our city. We will continue to embrace and value the rich diversity within Denver Public Schools, and will always act quickly to prevent and address any and all issues of discrimination and harassment in our schools. Please [visit our website](#) for tools about how to talk to your children when issues like this arise.

Sincerely,

Susana Cordova
Superintendent